REGIONAL FUGITIVE TASK FORCES

CATCH OF THE WEEK

Week of October 25th, 2004

Taking the Worst of the Worst Off the Streets

Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force

On October 22, 2004, Christopher Wheat was arrested in Atlanta, Georgia, by the members of the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF), with assistance from the Atlanta Police Department. Wheat was wanted by the Walton County, Georgia, Sheriff's Department for homicide and aggravated assault with a handgun. On October 5, 2004, Wheat was allegedly in a shootout with rival gang members during which he fatally shot one victim and severely wounded another. SERFTF investigators developed information that Wheat was possibly at a city housing project in southwest Atlanta. Investigators proceeded to the location, observed Wheat walking down the street and arrested him. Wheat's criminal history includes at least six prior arrests for robbery and aggravated assault.



Christopher Wheat

Wanted for Homicide and Aggravated Assault with a Handgun

New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force

On October 27, 2004, the NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force was contacted by the Nassau County Police Department Arson/Bomb Squad for assistance in locating and arresting Scott Irwin. Irwin was initially wanted for failure to appear for sentencing for a conviction of robbery first degree. During the course of the investigation, information was developed that Irwin was committing other crimes including arson, in which he allegedly fire-bombed a vehicle in Bayville, New York. Irwin was also wanted for falsely reporting a bomb threat, four counts of aggravated harassment, criminal mischief, and coercion after issuing death threats and intimidation to former girlfriends and places of business over a thirty day period. While on the run, Irwin had been calling the Nassau County Police Department and taunting police to catch him. On October 27, 2004, Task Force members, along with the Nassau County Police Department Bureau of Special Operations, the Nassau County Police Department Arson/Bomb Squad, and the Suffolk County Police Department surrounded Irwin at a residence in Huntington Station, New York and arrested him.



Scott Irwin

Wanted for Arson, Aggravated Harassment, Criminal Mischief, Coercion, and Falsely Reporting a Bomb Threat

Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force

James Russell and Candace Hargrove were arrested in Inglewood, California on October 25, 2004 by members of the Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force (PSWRFTF) and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD). Russell and Hargrove were wanted by the Dayton, Ohio, Police Department for murder, aggravated robbery, gross abuse of a corpse, auto theft, and intimidation of a crime witnesses in connection with the death of a Federal Aviation Administration Inspector at Dayton International Airport. The victim was last seen on September 1, 2004, when he left his job at the airport. He was found shot to death in the trunk of his abandoned car 20 days later; believed to have been killed following a failed robbery attempt. On October 21, 2004, Dayton Police requested the PSWRFTF's assistance in locating Russell and Hargrove, who were believed to have fled to the Los Angeles area. Working closely with the U.S. Marshals Technical Operations Group, PSWRFTF investigators established long-term surveillances at a business and several residences in the Inglewood and Compton areas of Los Angeles. On the afternoon of October 25, 2004, PSWRFTF and LASD investigators observed two individuals resembling the suspects boarding a local transit bus on Crenshaw Boulevard in Inglewood. An LASD patrol unit conducted a traffic stop of the bus and both subjects were arrested without incident.



James Russell



Candace Hargrove

Wanted for Murder, Aggravated Robbery, Abuse of a Corpse, Auto Theft, Intimidation of a Witness

Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force

On October 25, 2004, Stephen Feldbauer was charged by the Fairfax County, Virginia, Police Department with the forcible sodomy of a minor. Preliminary investigation suggests that Feldbauer may have molested this child over a three year period, since the victim was 12 years of age. He is also suspected of molesting a 9-year-old girl in Virginia and a 15-year-old girl in Pennsylvania. Investigation is ongoing in those cases. On October 27, 2004, the Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF) was contacted for assistance. After determining that Feldbaur had fled to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, CARFTF investigators contacted the U.S. Marshals Greater Pittsburgh Fugitive Task Force, who worked around the clock, and the next day, arrested Feldbauer at one of several addresses that he had visited while on the run.



Stephen Feldbauer

Wanted for Forcible Sodomy of a Minor

Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force

On October 21, 2004 members of the Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force located and apprehended Sammy Govea in Cicero, Illinois. Govea was wanted by the Illinois Department of Corrections for a parole violation. Recovered from his residence at the time of arrest were twelve rifles, four shotguns, and three handguns, including one handgun that had the serial number filed off. Sammy Govea was charged with unlawful possession of unregistered firearms, aggravated unlawful use of a weapon, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Govea is currently being held without bond in the Illinois Department of Corrections waiting to answer to his new criminal charges and his parole violation before the Parole Board.



Sammy Govea

Wanted for Parole Violation. Arrested in possession of 19 guns in his residence